

HELLO,  
SIX-YEAR-OLDS AND  
PARENTS READING  
TO THREE-YEAR-  
OLDS!

UNTIL RECENTLY,  
COMICS WERE JUST  
PICTURE BOOKS USED  
TO DISTRACT SMALL  
CHILDREN!

NOT ANYMORE!  
THANKS TO TEAM FORTRESS  
COMICS, THEY'RE NOW **BLOOD-  
SOAKED, ADRENALINE-GORGED**  
**ORGIES OF PICTURE VIOLENCE**  
THAT'LL DISTRACT KIDS OF  
ALL AGES!





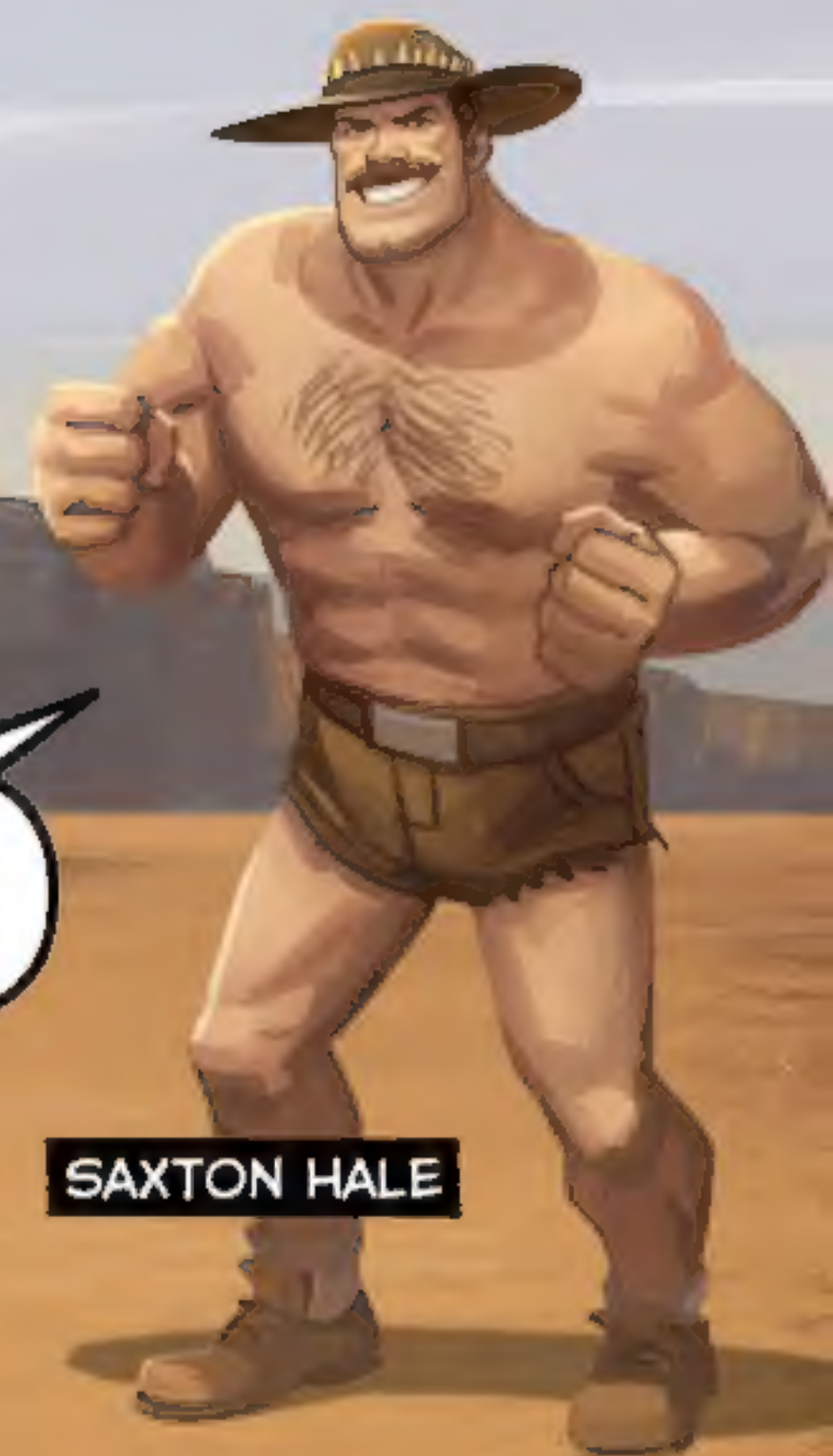
I'M SAXTON HALE!  
AND IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM  
YOU'RE PROBABLY AN IDIOT! OR A  
CHILDLESS ADULT.

BUT DON'T WORRY!  
BECAUSE THE COMIC YOU'RE  
NOW READING HAS BEEN WRITTEN,  
*BY HAND*, WITH THE EXPRESS  
PURPOSE OF CATCHING YOU UP  
ON SEVEN YEARS OF BACKSTORY,  
SO YOU CAN GET TO THE  
GOOD STUFF...

ISSUE #1 OF  
OUR ONGOING  
TEAM FORTRESS  
COMIC BOOK!

SO YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN,  
BECAUSE—ON SECOND THOUGHT,  
STAND. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE IN  
A COMFORTABLE BOWEL-EMPTYING  
POSITION FOR THE *ROCKET-SLED*  
OF EXPOSITION YOU'RE ABOUT  
TO BE STRAPPED TO!

LET'S GET  
STARTED!



SAXTON HALE

# THE TEAM FORTRESS® 2 CATCH-UP COMIC



# 1850



OUR STORY STARTS IN NEW MEXICO.  
IT'S A DESERT, AND IT LOOKS LIKE  
THIS. ONLY A MORON WOULD LIVE HERE.





HERE'S SOME MORONS  
WHO DECIDED TO LIVE  
HERE. A RICH OLD MAN  
FROM ENGLAND AND HIS  
TWIN IDIOT SONS.

THE BOYS *HATED* EACH  
OTHER! BUT THEY LOVED  
THEIR DAD, AND THEY  
CONVINCED HIM TO BUY  
MOST OF NEW MEXICO  
AND MOVE THERE.

THE OLD MAN NEVER  
FORGAVE THEM FOR IT.

REDMOND MANN

BLUTARCH MANN

ZEPHENIAH MANN





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ON HIS DEATHBED, HE LEFT  
THE FAMILY MUNITIONS  
COMPANY (MANN CO.) TO  
HIS TRUSTED AIDE...



BARNABUS HALE  
(MY GRANDDAD)



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THE FAMILY MUNITIONS  
COMPANY (MANN CO.) TO  
HIS TRUSTED AIDE...

...HE LEFT HIS  
MAIDSERVANT  
ALL HIS GOLD...



ELIZABETH



...AND HE LEFT  
HIS SONS *NOTHING*.





...AND HE LEFT  
HIS SONS *NOTHING*.

NOTHING BUT THE USELESS  
LAND THEY'D CONVINCED  
HIM TO BUY. AND HE GAVE  
IT TO THEM TO *SHARE*. SO  
THEY'D FIGHT OVER IT UNTIL  
THE DAY *THEY* DIED.





ONE OF THE BROTHERS HIRED MERCENARIES TO SEIZE THE LAND FROM HIS TWIN. BUT THE OTHER BROTHER DID TOO!

THE ENSUING LAND WAR HAS GONE ON FOR A HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS NOW — AS DRAMATIZED IN THE DOCUMENTARY VIDEO GAME TEAM FORTRESS 2!

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# 1890

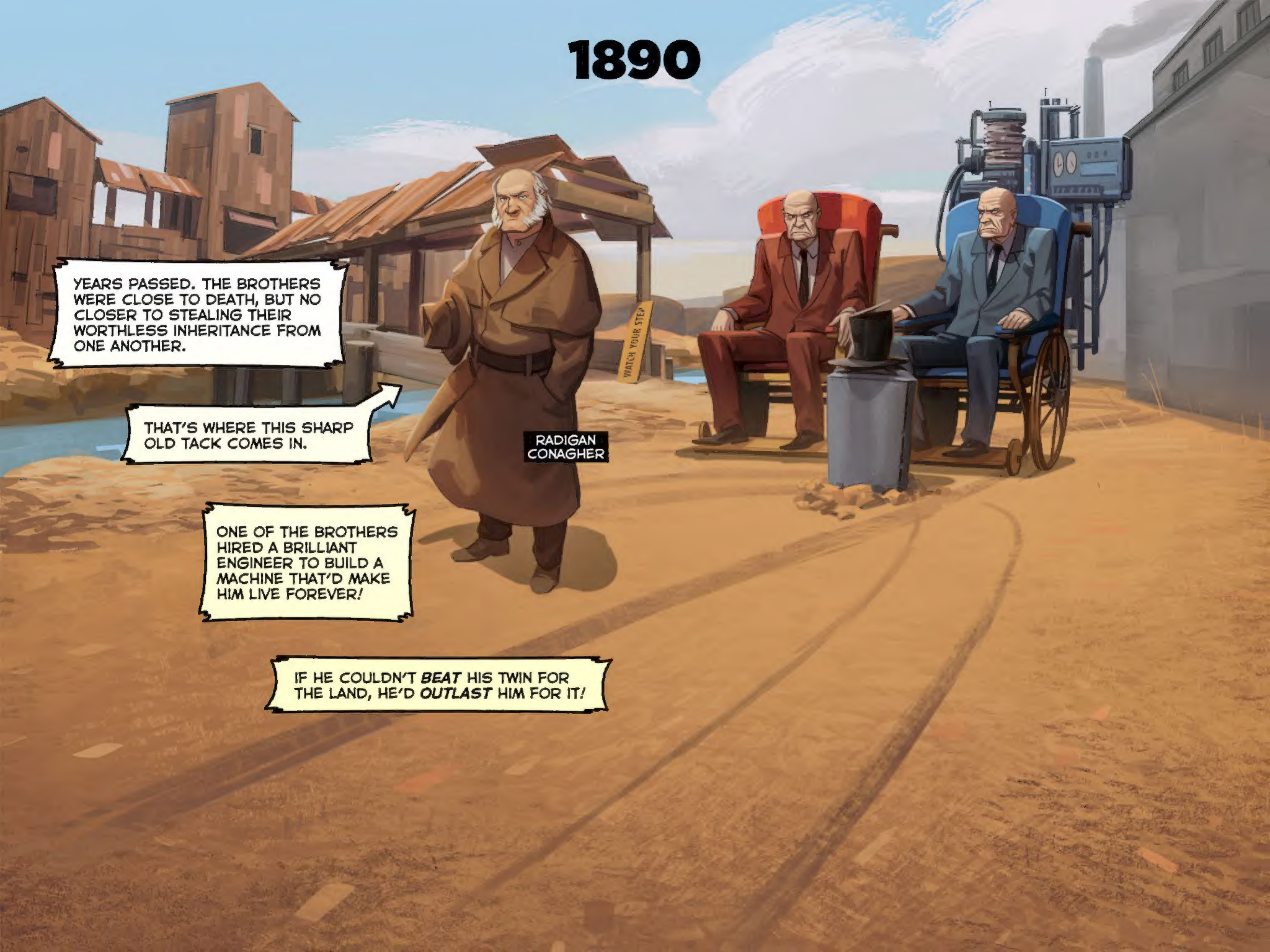
YEARS PASSED. THE BROTHERS WERE CLOSE TO DEATH, BUT NO CLOSER TO STEALING THEIR WORTHLESS INHERITANCE FROM ONE ANOTHER.

THAT'S WHERE THIS SHARP OLD TACK COMES IN.

ONE OF THE BROTHERS HIRED A BRILLIANT ENGINEER TO BUILD A MACHINE THAT'D MAKE HIM LIVE FOREVER!

IF HE COULDN'T *BEAT* HIS TWIN FOR THE LAND, HE'D *OUTLAST* HIM FOR IT!

RADIGAN CONAGHER







ELIZABETH

ONLY PROBLEM WAS, *THIS* LADY SECRETLY CONVINCED THE ENGINEER TO BUILD A MACHINE FOR THE *OTHER* BROTHER TOO!

WHY? NOBODY KNOWS. BUT NOW THE BROTHERS ARE BOTH PRACTICALLY IMMORTAL, STILL IDIOTS, AND DOOMED TO PIT THEIR MERCS AGAINST EACH OTHER *FOREVER!*





AUSTRALIUM

YOU'RE PROBABLY ASKING, "SAXTON, HOW CAN I BUILD A LIFE-EXTENDING MACHINE?" WELL, FIRST YOU'D NEED SOME *AUSTRALIUM*. AND GOOD LUCK, 'CAUSE IT'S HARD TO COME BY.

IT'S THE MOST VALUABLE SUBSTANCE ON EARTH. WHEN WE AUSTRALIANS FOUND THE STUFF, IT TURNED US INTO SUPERMEN! LOOK AT THAT CITY UP THERE. PRETTY FUTURISTIC, RIGHT?



# STILL 1890



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GUESS WHAT: *THAT'S AUSTRALIA! IN 1890!*



# NOW IT'S 1930



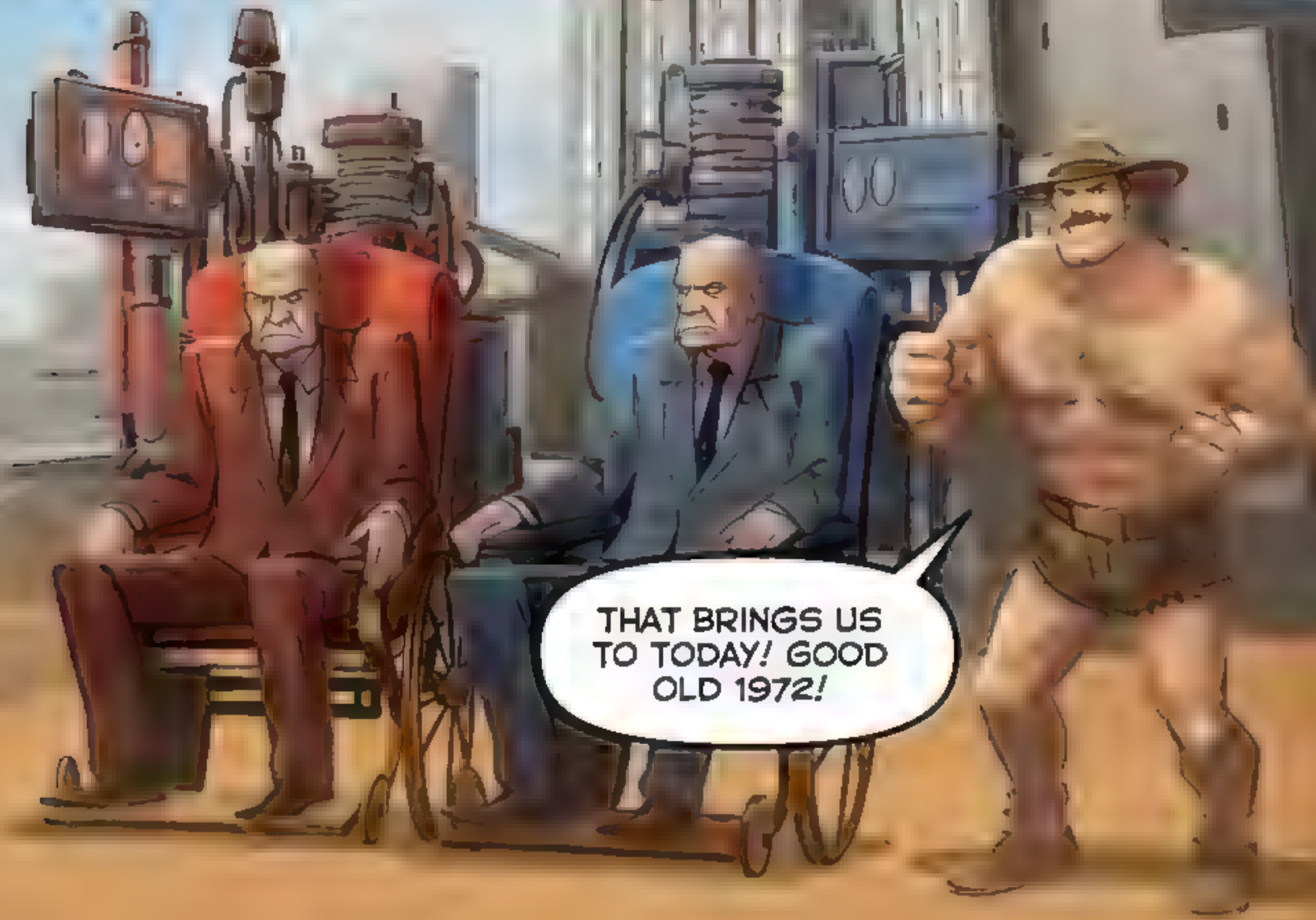
BILIOUS HALE  
(MY DAD)

TEAM FORTRESS  
CLASSIC MERCS

ANYWAY, MORE YEARS PASSED,  
THE BROTHERS DIDN'T DIE,  
AND THE WAR CONTINUED.



# NOW IT'S NOW







I'M IN CHARGE  
OF THE FAMILY  
BUSINESS NOW!

MOSTLY I MAKE  
AND SELL WEAPONS  
FOR *THESE* GUYS,  
THE CURRENT CROP  
OF MERCS.



THESE TWO LOVELY  
LADIES HELP COORDINATE THE  
MASSIVE LAND WAR THE MERCS  
FIGHT EVERY DAY.

THEY'RE ALSO SECRETLY  
WORKING FOR BOTH SIDES, BUT  
THE BROTHERS AND THE MERCS  
DON'T KNOW THAT, SO KEEP IT  
UNDER YOUR HAT.

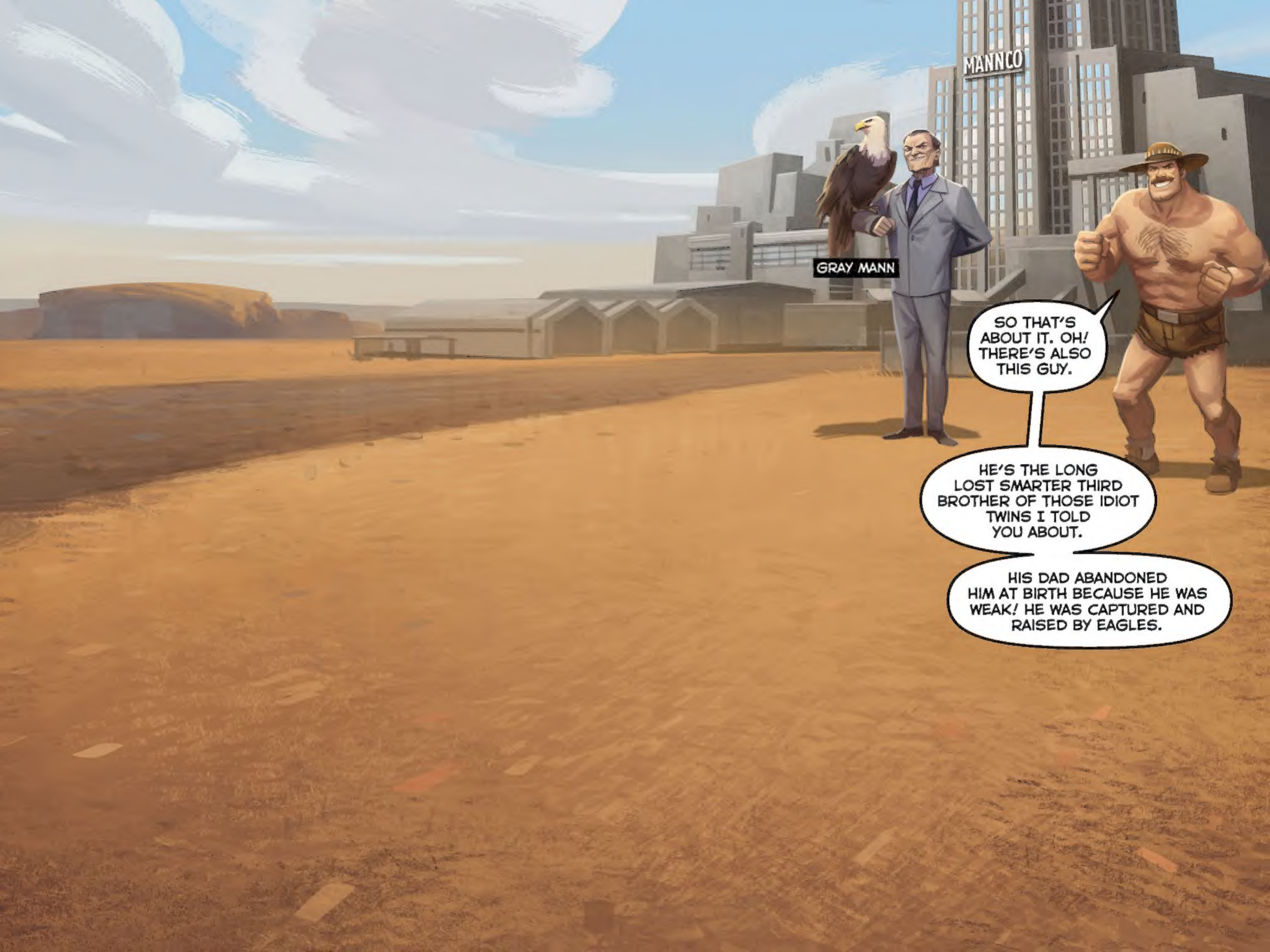
IN FACT,  
BURN YOUR  
COMPUTER  
AFTER YOU  
READ THIS.

THE ADMINISTRATOR

MISS PAULING,  
HER ASSISTANT







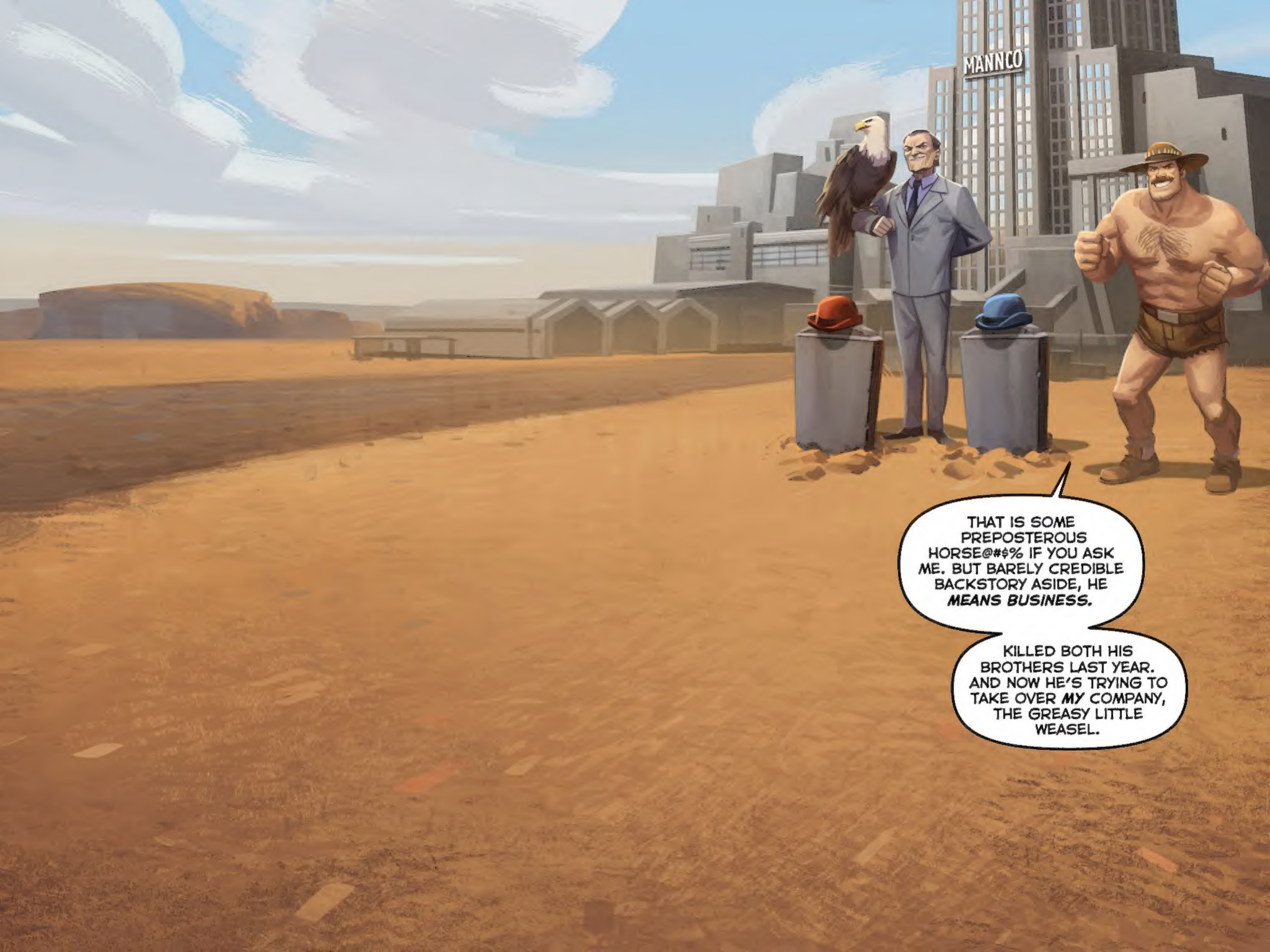
GRAY MANN

SO THAT'S ABOUT IT. OH! THERE'S ALSO THIS GUY.

HE'S THE LONG LOST SMARTER THIRD BROTHER OF THOSE IDIOT TWINS I TOLD YOU ABOUT.

HIS DAD ABANDONED HIM AT BIRTH BECAUSE HE WAS WEAK! HE WAS CAPTURED AND RAISED BY EAGLES.





THAT IS SOME  
PREPOSTEROUS  
HORSE@#% IF YOU ASK  
ME. BUT BARELY CREDIBLE  
BACKSTORY ASIDE, HE  
**MEANS BUSINESS.**

KILLED BOTH HIS  
BROTHERS LAST YEAR.  
AND NOW HE'S TRYING TO  
TAKE OVER *MY* COMPANY,  
THE GREASY LITTLE  
WEASEL.



ALRIGHT, ALL  
THAT GARBAGE I TOLD  
YOU BEFORE? FORGET  
ABOUT IT.

ALL THE PEOPLE IN FRONT  
OF YOUR EYEBALLS *RIGHT  
NOW* ARE WHAT MATTERS.  
BURN THEM INTO YOUR BRAIN.  
I CAN WAIT.

MEMORIZED? GOOD!  
NOW YOU'RE READY TO READ  
**TEAM FORTRESS COMICS!**  
CLICK THIS PAGE TO GO  
RIGHT TO ISSUE #1!

HAPPY FREE COMIC  
BOOK DAY! OR AS WE CALL  
IT HERE AT TF COMICS,  
**EVERY DAY!**

GET  
CLICKING.



# HAPPY FREE COMIC BOOK DAY